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ABSTRACT

This report provides early estimates of key fall 1991 enrollment statistics as well as academic year 1990-91 completions statistics for all postsecondary institutions in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The study employed a survey which was part of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The survey, conducted by telephone, collected key enrollment and completions data from a nationwide sample of 1,195 postsecondary institutions representing the more than 10,000 such schools in operation in 1991. Institutions of higher education comprised about one-third of all postsecondary institutions, but accounted for 93 percent of the total 1991 fall enrollment and conferred 68 percent of all postsecondary awards in 1990-91. Highlights of the summary are the following: (1) an estimated 14.8 million students were enrolled at postsecondary institutions in the United States in fall 1991; (2) overall fall enrollment at postsecondary institutions has remained stable since the previous year while the enrollment of women increased 1.7 percent. Significant gains were made in 2-year institutions particularly in part-time enrollment; and (3) the total number of degrees and other formal awards conferred by postsecondary institutions in 1990-91 showed no significant change over 1989-90. (Included are six tables and a glossary.) (JB)

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Early Estimates

June 1992

National Postsecondary Statistics, Collegiate and Noncollegiate: Fall 1991

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Early Estimates June 1992

National Postsecondary Statistics, Collegiate and Noncollegiate: Fall 1991

Mark J. Pluta
Postsecondary Education Statistics Division

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement NCES 92-040

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June 1992

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Highlights

An estimated 14.8 million students were enrolled at postsecondary institutions in the United States in fall 1991, according to the "Early Estimates" survey conducted by NCES (table 1). Other estimates from the survey indicate that:

- Overall fall 1991 enrollment at postsecondary institutions has remained stable since the previous year while the enrollment of women increased 1.7 percent (table 1). Significant gains were made in 2-year institutions particularly in part-time enrollment.

- The total number of degrees and other formal awards conferred by postsecondary institutions in academic year 1990-91 has shown no significant change over academic year 1989-90 (table 2). The number of degrees awarded to women however, rose significantly in public institutions (2.5 percent).

Introduction

This report provides early estimates of key fall 1991 enrollment statistics and academic year 1990-91 completions statistics for all postsecondary institutions—irrespective of their accreditation status—in the 50 States and DC. Postsecondary institutions include: (1) higher education institutions accredited at the college level by an agency recognized by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; and (2) other postsecondary institutions, collegiate and noncollegiate.[1]

The "Early Estimates" survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is part of its Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The survey, conducted by telephone, collected key enrollment and completions data from a nationwide sample of 1,195 postsecondary institutions representing the more than 10,000 such schools in operation in 1991. Table 5 shows the distribution of these postsecondary institutions in 1990-91 by control and level (1991-92 data are currently being collected).

Institutions of higher education comprised about one-third of all postsecondary institutions in operation in 1991, but accounted for 93 percent of the total 1991 fall enrollment and conferred 68 percent of all postsecondary awards in 1990-91. A survey report providing early estimates of national higher education statistics was released by NCES in December 1991.

The enrollment and completions data in this report are not directly comparable. The enrollment data are for students enrolled as of the institution's official fall reporting date or October 15, 1991. The completions data are for students who received an award any time during the 12-month period of July 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991. The data and findings in this report are *early estimates* and are subject to sampling errors. See the Survey Methodology section for more information.

[1] The definition of postsecondary education appears in the Glossary.

Enrollment

Total enrollment at postsecondary institutions in the United States was estimated at over 14.8 million students in fall 1991—with no significant increase from fall 1990 (table 1).[2] However, the number of women enrolled increased 1.7 percent over 1990 fall enrollment. Women outnumbered men at postsecondary institutions by about 1.5 million students with a 55 percent share of the total enrollment.

About 58 percent of postsecondary students enrolled in 4-year institutions, 39 percent in 2-year institutions, and 3 percent in less-than-2-year institutions. By institutional control, 76 percent of postsecondary students were at public institutions, 19 percent at private nonprofit institutions, and 5 percent at private for-profit institutions.

Enrollment in all 4-year institutions has remained stable over the past year. Full-time enrollment has shown some slight growth (1.8 percent) while part-time enrollment in 4-year institutions has not shown any significant change. There has been no significant growth in male or female enrollment, or in enrollment at either the undergraduate or postbaccalaureate level in 4-year institutions.

Two-year institutions registered a gain in enrollment of 5.3 percent from fall 1990 to fall 1991, with the increase in part-time attendance (7.8 percent) accounting for most of this overall increase. Sixty-one percent of students attending 2-year institutions attend part-time. Full-time enrollment in these institutions has shown no significant increase since fall 1990. Both male and female enrollment increased significantly over the past year (4.5 and 5.9 percent, respectively).

Total enrollment at less-than-2-year institutions was estimated at nearly 430,000 students in the fall of 1991, however there was no significant change in enrollment at these institutions over the previous year. This enrollment figure should be interpreted cautiously with the understanding that the actual enrollment during the fall term and the year will be higher. Many instructional programs offered at these institutions do not start at the beginning of the fall term. These instructional programs are often of short duration and may begin and end at various times throughout the year. Consequently, enrollment over the entire fall term—and year—will be significantly higher at less-than-2-year institutions than what is reported here, which is as of a single date (the institution's official fall reporting date, or October 15, 1991).

Enrollment at all public institutions increased 2.4 percent over fall 1990 enrollment with the growth in part-time attendance driving this increase (4.5 percent). In the private sector, total enrollment did not change significantly from the previous fall figures at either nonprofit or for-profit institutions.

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[2] The percentage changes in fall enrollment were derived by comparing the 1991 estimated data to data from the IPEDS "Fall Enrollment" survey of 1990. The "Fall Enrollment" survey is sent to the universe of 4-year, 2-year, and public less-than-2-year institutions, and to a sample of private less-than-2-year schools.

Completions

An estimated 2.9 million degrees and other formal awards[3] were conferred by postsecondary institutions between July 1, 1990 and June 30, 1991, showing no significant increase nationally over the previous academic year 1989-90 (table 2). The number of awards earned by women was up 2.5 percent at public institutions[4], while the number of degrees earned by men did not change significantly.

Undergraduate degrees and other formal awards

The total number of associate degrees, as well as other less-than-4-year awards,[5] has shown no significant overall change between 1989-90 and 1990-91. However, the number of associate degrees conferred upon women increased 4.1 percent with the public sector accounting for the majority of the increase (table 2). The total number of bachelor's degrees awarded in 1990-91 increased 3.5 percent over the previous academic year. This increase in bachelor's degrees was due primarily to an increase in the number of these degrees earned by women, particularly at public institutions (5.3 percent). The number of bachelor's degrees earned by men increased slightly (1.8 percent).

Postbaccalaureate degrees

The number of master's degrees awarded is up about 11,000 over the prior year's count—a 3.5 percent increase. Nearly all of this increase can be attributed to the substantial increase in the number of master's degrees earned by women (5.4 percent). Men also earned significantly more master's degrees from public institutions compared with the previous year (nearly 4 percent). The total number of first-professional degrees conferred remained relatively stable. However, the number of first-professional degrees awarded to women at public institutions increased almost 6 percent over the previous year. The total number of doctor's degrees earned nationally has increased since 1989-90 (3.1 percent) with this growth attributable to the increase in the number of doctor's degrees awarded to women particularly in public institutions (8.3 percent).

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[3] NCES collects data on associate degrees, other less-than-4-year awards, bachelor's, master's, doctor's, and first-professional degrees through the "Early Estimates" survey. Data on these awards as well as postbaccalaureate certificates and post-master's certificates are collected as part of the IPEDS "Completions" survey.

[4] The percentage changes in degrees and other formal awards were derived by comparing the 1990-91 estimated data to data from the IPEDS "Completions" survey of 1989-90. The "Completions" survey is sent to the universe of 4-year, 2-year, and public less-than-2-year institutions, and to a sample of private less-than-2-year institutions.

[5] The category of other less-than-4-year awards includes postsecondary awards, certificates, or diplomas (other than associate degrees) that require completion of a program of less than 1 year, at least 1 but less than 2 years, or at least 2 but less than 4 years. A more complete definition of this award category appears in the Glossary.

Survey Methodology

The fall 1991 enrollment data and 1990-91 completions data are based on responses from the 1,195 postsecondary institutions which had previously agreed to serve on the Early Estimates Panel, a stratified random sample representative of the universe of 10,014 postsecondary institutions in the United States in 1990-91.[6] Selected data items from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) "Fall Enrollment" and "Completions" surveys were requested by telephone from the Early Estimates Representative at each institution in the sample between mid-October and mid-December 1991. The data were edited in light of previous years' survey responses, where available. The largest discrepancies were resolved with the reporting institutions.

The overall response rate for the 1,195 panel participants in the 1991 "Early Estimates" survey of postsecondary institutions was 96.7 percent. The weighted response rates are based on the sample weights assigned to the institutions. The weighted response rates for the individual survey components were: (1) Fall enrollment, 96.1 percent; and (2) Completions, 93.4 percent. The national estimates were generated by using ratio estimation based on fall 1990 data from the "Fall Enrollment" survey and academic year 1989-90 data from the "Completions" survey.[7]

These early estimates are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. While nonsampling error is difficult to measure, the magnitude of sampling error can be estimated, and may be indicated by constructing a confidence interval for an estimate. A 95 percent confidence interval indicates that if all possible samples were surveyed under similar conditions, and if a 95 percent confidence interval were constructed for each sample, then about 95 percent of these intervals would include the true population parameter being estimated.

Estimates of the sampling errors of selected data from the 1991 "Early Estimates" survey are provided in table 6. The sampling error estimates are expressed as a percentage of the estimate (the coefficient of variation or CV). For each 1991 estimate in the report, a 95 percent confidence interval may be constructed by multiplying the CV of the estimate by 1.96, multiplying the resulting number by the estimate, and adding and subtracting this final number to the estimate. For example, the 95 percent confidence interval for enrollment may be calculated as follows: .0085 X 1.96 = .01666; .01666 X 14,848,120 = 247,370.[8] When 247,370 is added to and subtracted from the estimated 14,848,120 students enrolled, the resulting confidence interval is 14,600,750 to 15,095,490.

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[6] The universe consists of 3,559 institutions of higher education and 6,455 other postsecondary institutions. The early estimates sample consists of 665 institutions of higher education and 530 other postsecondary institutions.

[7] It should be noted that the IPEDS "Completions" and "Fall Enrollment" data are not surveyed on a census basis. The less-than-2-year private nonprofit and private for-profit sectors are surveyed on a sample basis. The institutions for the Early Estimates sample in corresponding sectors are drawn from the original sample. The ratio estimation technique for these institutions employs an additional step where the assigned weights for the institutions are multiplied by a number representing the inverse probability of selection (for the fall 1990 enrollment survey and the 1989-90 completions survey) to arrive at their final weights. Care should be taken when viewing the early estimates from these sectors as both 1990 enrollment and 1989-90 completions data are subject to sampling error.

[8] CVs have been rounded here and in table 6; however, upper and lower confidence intervals were calculated using actual values.

The CVs in table 6 were computed by a procedure called *balanced repeated replications*. This procedure accounts for the sample design and the ratio estimation based on universe data. However, the version of the procedure currently implemented does not take into consideration the sampling of less-than-2-year institutions in the 1990 "Fall Enrollment" and the 1989-90 "Completions" survey data that are used to form one of the factors for ratio estimation. The effects on the CVs will be minor, except possibly for the following cases:

less-than-2-year fall enrollment;
private for-profit fall enrollment; and
other less-than-4-year awards.

For more information on the sample selection, data collection, and estimation methodologies, or for individual standard errors for the sample estimates in this report, please contact the author at (202) 219-1854.

For More Information

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Glossary

First Professional

A student enrolled in any of the following degree programs:

Chiropractic (D.C. or D.C.M.)	Pharmacy (D.Phar.)
Dentistry (D.D.S. or D.M.D.)	Podiatry (Pod. D. or D.P.)
Medicine (M.D.)	Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.)
Optometry (O.D.)	Law (L.L.B., J.D.)
Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)	Theology (M.Div. or M.H.L. or B.D.)

Full-time Student

Undergraduate: A student enrolled for 12 or more semester credits, or 12 or more quarter credits, or 24 contact hours a week each term.

Graduate: A student enrolled for 9 or more semester credits, or 9 or more quarter credits or students involved in thesis preparation that are considered full time by the institution.

First-professional: As defined by the institution.

Other Less-than-4-year Awards

Postsecondary awards, certificates, or diplomas (other than associate degrees) that require completion of an organized program of study at the postsecondary level:

- In less than 1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters) or in less than 900 contact hours by a student enrolled full-time; or

- In at least 1 but less than 2 full-time-equivalent academic years, or designed for completion in at least 30 but less than 60 credit hours, or in at least 900 but less than 1,800 contact hours; or

- In at least 2 but less than 4 full-time-equivalent academic years; or designed for completion in at least 60 but less than 120 credit hours, or in at least 1,800 but less than 3,600 contact hours.

Part-time Student

Undergraduate: A student enrolled for either 11 semester credits or less, or 11 quarter credits or less, or less than 24 contact hours per week.

Graduate: A student enrolled for either 8 semester credits or less, or 8 quarter credits or less.

Postsecondary Education

The provision of a formal instructional program with curriculum designed primarily for students who have completed the requirements for a high school diploma or its equivalent. This includes academic, vocational, and continuing professional education programs, and excludes avocational and adult basic education programs.

Table 1.--Enrollment in postsecondary institutions, by sex, attendance status, and attendance level of student, and by level and control of institution: Fall 1991 and 1990

(In thousands)

Level and control of institution	Total	Sex		Attendance status		Attendance level	
		Men	Women	Full-time	Part-time	Undergraduate	Postbaccalaureate
Total, 1991 (estimates)	14,848	6,673	8,175	8,706	6,143	12,988	1,861
Total, 1990	14,687	6,652	8,035	8,742	5,945	12,823	1,864
Percent change*	1.1	0.3	1.7 *	-0.4	3.3 *	1.3	-0.2
Level							
4-year							
1991 (estimates)	8,653	4,086	4,568	6,074	2,579	6,793	1,861
1990	8,607	4,078	4,529	5,968	2,638	6,743	1,864
Percent change*	0.5	0.2	0.9	1.8 *	-2.2	0.7	-0.2
2-year							
1991 (estimates)	5,766	2,449	3,317	2,224	3,542	5,766	--
1990	5,474	2,343	3,131	2,188	3,286	5,474	--
Percent change*	5.3 *	4.5 *	5.9 *	1.7	7.8 *	5.3 *	--
Less-than-2-year 1/							
1991 (estimates)	429	139	290	429	--	429	--
1990	606	232	374	606	--	606	--
Percent change*	-29.3	-40.2	-22.5	-29.3	--	-29.3	--
Control							
Public							
1991 (estimates)	11,332	5,094	6,238	6,079	5,253	10,215	1,118
1990	11,062	4,994	6,068	6,036	5,027	9,937	1,125
Percent change*	2.4 *	2.0 *	2.8 *	0.7	4.5 *	2.8 *	-0.7
Private nonprofit							
1991 (estimates)	2,888	1,343	1,545	2,063	825	2,157	731
1990	2,902	1,369	1,533	2,051	852	2,175	727
Percent change*	-0.5	-1.9	0.8	0.6	-3.1	-0.8	0.5
Private for-profit							
1991 (estimates)	627	236	391	563	64	615	12
1990	722	290	433	655	67	711	12
Percent change*	-13.2	-18.5	-9.6 *	-14.1	-4.2	-13.5	4.0 *

-- Not applicable.

*Only percent changes which are noted by an asterisk are statistically different from zero at the 95 percent confidence level. Caution should be exercised when collectively interpreting several percent changes noted by an asterisk. The overall significance level (i.e., the chance of finding at least one statistically significant difference when, in fact, there are no differences) will be greater than 5 percent. Percent changes are calculated on actual, not rounded, values. Percent changes in fall enrollment were derived by comparing the 1991 estimated data to data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) "Fall Enrollment" survey of 1990. The "Fall Enrollment" survey is sent to the universe of 4-year, 2-year, and public less-than-2-year institutions, and to a sample of private less-than-2-year institutions.

1/ All students at less-than-2-year institutions were categorized as full-time. Enrollment figures in these institutions should be interpreted cautiously since many short programs are offered throughout the year and students may enroll at any time. Consequently, actual enrollment figures will be higher than these which are as of October 15 of the given year.

NOTE: Details may not add to totals because of rounding. The coefficients of variation and 95 percent confidence intervals for selected data items are provided in Table 6. Postbaccalaureate includes students enrolled in master's, doctor's, and first-professional programs.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment" survey, 1990, and "Early Estimates" survey, 1991.

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Table 2.--Degrees and other formal awards conferred by postsecondary institutions, by control of institution, level of degree or award, and sex of recipient: Academic years 1989-90 and 1990-91

(In thousands)

Level of degree or award and sex of recipient	Total			Public			Private 1/		
	1989-90	1990-91 (estimates)	Percent change*	1989-90	1990-91 (estimates)	Percent change*	1989-90	1990-91 (estimates)	Percent change*
Total	2,863	2,928	2.3	1,614	1,631	1.1	1,249	1,298	3.9
Men	1,308	1,337	2.2	744	739	-0.7	564	598	6.1
Women	1,555	1,591	2.3	870	892	2.5 *	686	700	2.1
Degrees									
Associate degrees									
Total	474	486	2.5	382	390	2.2	92	96	3.9
Men	200	201	0.3	158	157	-0.3	43	44	2.5
Women	274	285	4.1 *	224	233	3.9 *	50	52	5.0
Other less-than-4-year awards 2/									
Total	896	899	0.3	294	269	-8.6 *	602	631	4.7
Men	388	404	4.2	142	131	-7.7	246	273	11.1
Women	509	495	-2.6	152	138	-9.5 *	357	358	0.3
Bachelor's degrees									
Total	1,054	1,091	3.5 *	699	721	3.2 *	355	369	4.0 *
Men	494	504	1.8 *	328	331	0.9	167	173	3.6 *
Women	560	587	4.9 *	371	391	5.3 *	189	197	4.3 *
Master's degrees									
Total	327	339	3.5 *	186	196	5.4 *	141	143	0.9
Men	156	158	1.4	83	87	3.9 *	72	71	-1.5
Women	172	181	5.4 *	102	109	6.7 *	69	72	3.5
First-professional degrees									
Total	72	73	1.7	29	29	1.5	43	44	1.9
Men	45	46	1.6	18	17	-1.2	27	28	3.5
Women	27	28	1.8	11	12	5.8 *	16	16	-0.9
Doctor's degrees									
Total	39	41	3.1 *	25	26	4.0 *	15	15	1.7
Men	25	25	0.7	16	16	1.6	9	9	-1.0
Women	14	15	7.4 *	9	9	8.3 *	6	6	6.2

*Only percent changes which are noted by an asterisk are statistically different from zero at the 95 percent confidence level. Caution should be exercised when collectively interpreting several percent changes noted by an asterisk. The overall significance level (i.e., the chance of finding at least one statistically significant difference when, in fact, there are no differences) will be greater than 5 percent. Percent changes were calculated on actual, not rounded, values. Percent changes in degrees and other formal awards were derived by comparing the 1990-91 estimated data to data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) "Completions" survey of 1989-90. The "Completions" survey was sent to the universe of 4-year, 2-year, and public less-than-2-year institutions, and to a sample of private less-than-2-year institutions.

1/ Includes nonprofit and for-profit institutions.

2/ See the Glossary for a complete definition.

NOTE: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. The coefficients of variation and 95 percent confidence intervals for selected data items are provided in Table 6.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Completions" survey, 1989-90, and "Early Estimates" survey, 1991.

Table 3.--Enrollment in postsecondary institutions, by sex and attendance status of student, and by control and level of institution: Fall 1987 to fall 1991

Sex and attendance status of student and control and level of institution	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991 1/
Total	13,964,079	14,112,391	14,515,295	14,686,944	14,848,120
Men	6,477,460	6,465,391	6,629,228	6,652,431	6,673,186
Women	7,486,619	7,647,000	7,886,067	8,034,513	8,174,934
Attendance status					
Full-time	8,270,104	8,328,282	8,551,786	8,741,582	8,705,616
Part-time	5,693,975	5,784,109	5,963,509	5,945,362	6,142,504
Control					
Public	10,331,628	10,482,675	10,820,585	11,062,424	11,332,491
Private nonprofit	2,772,344	2,814,446	2,865,050	2,902,128	2,888,385
Private for-profit	860,107	815,270	829,660	722,392	627,244
Level					
4-year	8,121,877	8,249,577	8,442,865	8,606,775	8,653,322
2-year	5,038,049	5,209,963	5,364,883	5,474,103	5,766,232
Less-than-2-year 2/	804,153	652,851	707,547	606,066	428,566

1/ Estimated.

2/ These enrollment figures in less-than-2-year institutions should be interpreted cautiously since actual enrollment during the fall term and year will be higher. These enrollment figures are the enrollment as of October 15 of the given year. These institutions offer many short programs that begin and end throughout the year and students may enroll at any time.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment" surveys, 1987-1990, and "Early Estimates" survey, 1991.

Table 4.--Degrees and other formal awards conferred by postsecondary institutions, by level of award and sex of recipient: Academic years 1987-88 to 1990-91

Level of degree or award and sex of recipient	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 1/
Total	2,801,179	2,809,605	2,863,133	2,928,497
Men	1,323,526	1,318,005	1,307,890	1,337,062
Women	1,477,653	1,491,600	1,555,243	1,591,435
Degrees				
Associate degrees 2/				
Total	450,050	450,999	473,968	485,743
Men	197,694	193,395	200,427	201,068
Women	252,356	257,604	273,541	284,675
Other less-than-4-year awards 3/				
Total	947,902	915,090	896,484	899,459
Men	431,945	418,435	387,573	403,965
Women	515,957	496,655	508,911	495,494
Bachelor's degrees				
Total	996,548	1,021,969	1,054,015	1,090,764
Men	479,184	486,039	494,415	503,535
Women	517,364	535,930	559,600	587,229
Master's degrees				
Total	300,572	312,609	327,149	338,547
Men	146,215	150,883	155,607	157,729
Women	154,357	161,726	171,542	180,818
First-professional degrees				
Total	70,817	71,847	72,105	73,341
Men	45,604	45,782	44,800	45,534
Women	25,213	26,065	27,305	27,807
Doctor's degrees				
Total	35,290	37,091	39,412	40,643
Men	22,884	23,471	25,067	25,231
Women	12,406	13,620	14,345	15,412

1/ Estimated.

2/ Academic year 1989-90 is preliminary data.

3/ Academic year 1989-90 is preliminary data. Includes postsecondary awards, certificates, or diplomas (other than associate degrees) that require completion of a program of less than 1 year, at least 1 but less than 2 years, or at least 2 but less than 4 years. A more complete definition appears in the Glossary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Completions" surveys, 1987-88, 1988-89, and 1989-90, and "Early Estimates" survey, 1991.

Table 5.--Number of postsecondary institutions in the United States, by control and level of institution: 1990-91

Level of institution	Total	Public	Private		
			Total	Nonprofit	For-profit
All postsecondary	10,014	2,096	7,918	2,808	5,110
4-year	2,550	609	1,941	1,830	111
2-year	2,660	1,207	1,453	623	830
Less-than-2-year	4,804	280	4,524	355	4,169
Higher education	3,559	1,567	1,992	1,649	343
4-year	2,141	595	1,546	1,482	64
2-year	1,391	971	420	166	254
Less-than-2-year	27	1	26	1	25
Other postsecondary	6,455	529	5,926	1,159	4,767
4-year	409	14	395	348	47
2-year	1,269	236	1,033	457	576
Less-than-2-year	4,777	279	4,498	354	4,144

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Institutional Characteristics" survey, 1990-91.

Table 6.--Coefficients of variation for selected data items in the 1991 "Early Estimates" survey

(In thousands)

Data item	Estimate	Coefficient of variation (Percent)	95% confidence interval	
			Lower	Upper
Fall enrollment				
Total	14,848	0.85	14,600	15,096
4-year	8,653	0.84	8,512	8,795
2-year	5,766	0.94	5,660	5,872
Less-than-2-year *	429	11.27	334	523
Public	11,332	0.47	11,228	11,437
Private nonprofit *	2,888	2.44	2,750	3,027
Private for-profit *	627	8.95	517	737
Completions				
Total	2,928	1.89	2,820	3,037
Associate degrees	486	1.62	470	501
Bachelor's degrees	1,091	0.64	1,077	1,104
Master's degrees	339	0.70	334	343
First-professional degrees	73	2.38	70	77
Doctor's degrees	41	1.17	40	42
Other less-than-4-year awards *	899	6.03	793	1006

* Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals from the 1990 fall enrollment and 1989-90 completions samples may be obtained from the author.

NOTE: The upper and lower confidence intervals were calculated on actual, not rounded, values.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Early Estimates" survey, 1991.

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